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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/031,371	04/30/2002	Maria Cristina Geroni	217550US0PCT	2516
22850	7590	06/17/2003		
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			EXAMINER KRISHNAN, GANAPATHY	
			ART UNIT 1623	PAPER NUMBER
			DATE MAILED: 06/17/2003	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/031,371	GERONI ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ganapathy Krishnan	1623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 17-38 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 17-39 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ . |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
 | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

The Amendment B filed April 3, 2003 has been received, entered into the record and carefully considered. The following information provided in the amendment affects the instant application:

1. Amendment to the specification at page 1, line 2, regarding priority.
2. Claims 1-8 and 12-16 have been cancelled.
3. New claims 17-39 have been added.
3. Remarks drawn to rejections under U.S.C.112 first, second paragraph and 103(a).

Claims 17-39 are pending.

Claim Objections

Claim 24 is objected to because of the following informalities: The term 5-fluorouracil is misspelled. Appropriate correction is required in this and any such occurrences.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The 112 first paragraph enablement rejection of Claims 3, 4, 6 and 15 has been overcome.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 17-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention is being maintained for reasons of record.

Applicants' arguments have been considered but are not found to be persuasive.

Claim 17 recites a product containing an alkylating agent of formula Ia or Ib and an antimetabolite as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use in the treatment of tumors.

Applicants argue that the specification instructs one of ordinary skill in the art that the product of claim 17 (claim 1 in previous office action) represents a combination therapy and need not be part of a single formulation and that the language cited at page 3, lines 5-13 of the specification indicates that the alkylating agent and the antimetabolite exist as separate entities.

If the product of claim 17 is represents a combination therapy and need not be part of a single formulation then it is not clear what is meant by a product containing formula Ia or Ib and an antimetabolite compound as a combined preparation. The recitation "combined preparation" conveys the meaning that it is a composition in which case compound of formula Ia or Ib and the antimetabolite compound can only be administered simultaneously and not separately or sequentially as recited. On the other hand if compounds of formula Ia or Ib and the antimetabolite compound need not be part of a single formulation then it is not clear what "combined preparation" means.

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Claim 17 is still unclear and indefinite as recited. If applicants intend the product containing compound of formula Ia or Ib and an antimetabolite compound as a combined preparation to be a composition then claims 25-27 are duplicates and have to be cancelled.

Claim 25 is also indefinite since it recites a pharmaceutical composition to be administered separately or sequentially. It is not clear what is meant by "administered separately or sequentially" when the compound of formula Ia or Ib and the antimetabolite compound are present in a composition and must requisite be a combined preparation.

Hence, claims 17-39 are all indefinite still for the reasons of record.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The rejection of claims 1-8, 12-14 and 16, which correspond to new claims 17, 20-25, 27, 28, 30, 32 and 36, under USC 103(a) has been overcome.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

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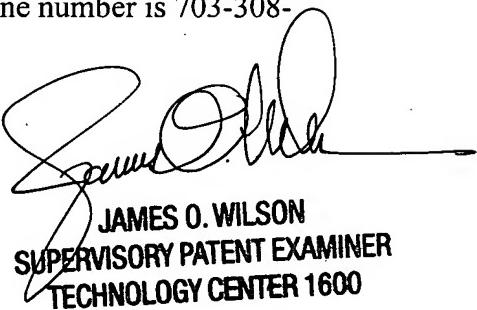
advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ganapathy Krishnan whose telephone number is 703-305-4837. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O. Wilson can be reached on 703-308-4624. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3014 for regular communications and 703-305-3014 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1235.

GK
June 15, 2003



JAMES O. WILSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600